

U. S. Ship Men Oppose Deal Aiding Germans

Owners' Association Says Proposal That Americans Help Restore the World Routes of Teutons Unjust

Export Trade Loss Seen

Government Board Urged to Refuse to Sanction Alleged Plan of Harriman

Hostility of American shipping interests to any contract with the Hamburg-American Line whereby American-owned ships could be used to aid in the restoration of German trade throughout the world was emphasized in resolutions made public yesterday by the American Steamship Owners' Association.

The association, it was announced, is unalterably opposed to any action by the United States Shipping Board which would place American-owned ships at the disposal of the Hamburg-American Line to restore the German transatlantic trade routes.

The association's attitude was quoted as being pertinent to the controversy being conducted by the American Ship and Commerce Corporation, owned by the Harriman interests and Alfred E. Clegg, president of the Kerr Steamship Company. The latter on Sunday charged that the contract entered into by the American Ship and Commerce Corporation constituted a "partnership" with the Germans which was detrimental to American shipping.

Mr. Clegg alleged that if the Shipping Board made public the full text of the agreement with the Germans a general protest would be organized which would lead to the cancellation of the agreement.

Neither W. Averell Harriman, president of the American Ship Corporation, nor John D. Rockefeller, president of the Hamburg-American Line, would comment on Mr. Clegg's charges. However, it was intimated that Mr. Harriman's office at 120 Broadway, that a general protest would be organized which would lead to the cancellation of the agreement.

Mr. Clegg has previously been approved by the Shipping Board.

The American Steamship Owners' Association is composed of the largest shipping corporations in the country, including the Harriman firm. At its office, 11 Battery place, it was said yesterday that the resolutions adopted by the American Steamship Owners' Association were adopted on March 24, that the "position of the association remained unchanged." No comment was made by Winthrop L. Marvin, president and general manager, on the Clegg charges.

Position of Shippers

The position of shippers, as stated in the resolutions, follows: "In view of the unfriendly record of the Hamburg-American Steamship Corporation, its connection with a German merchant marine prior to the war, and of the hostile acts of its agents and employees against the United States during the war, the American Steamship Owners' Association is earnestly opposed to the placing of steamers built and owned by the Hamburg-American Line as agents for the immediate restoration of German transatlantic trade routes from Hamburg to the foreign markets of the world.

"Even though our government-owned ships are operated under the American flag, and are transferred to Germany in Hamburg, by the direction of our Shipping Board, to be handled by the Hamburg-American Line, as agents in foreign trades, should be regarded as a question of partnership with an enemy corporation that has no right to such consideration from the American people.

"Such a transfer of American national tonnage to Germany, which report has it, is part of our meager fleet of regular mail steamers, would be particularly unjust to American manufacturers and ship owners in the face of the fact that the German mail, passenger and fast freight service exists from the United States to South America and the Orient.

U. S. Under No Obligation

The United States government is under no obligation to supply a fleet of its own ships to place German manufactured goods in foreign competitive markets in advance of American goods, and in order to be worked out, it is in process of being, by private initiative and capital, and that the government retain the best ships of its government fleet in the complete control of the American people.

"The Shipping Board, respectfully requests that it support and encourage American shipping lines and companies that have established a record of service to the United States, and that it encourage the establishment of new lines, operating in the German ports through agencies owned or controlled by Americans.

Mr. Clegg's statement yesterday he had repeated his assertion that the Shipping Board ought to make public the full text of the agreement with the Germans which was made public by the American Ship and Commerce Corporation on August 17. He later declared that the "whole-heartedly" in favor of it.

New Yorkers Commissioned

Department Announces List for City and Jersey

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police Department today announced a list of 100 New Jersey residents.

Washington, Sept. 13.—George M. Alden, assistant secretary of the Metropolitan Police Department, today announced a list of 100 New Jersey residents.

N. Karkick, 120 Broadway, and Theodore B. Parker, 6 Locust Street, Flushing, Capt. Fred S. W. ...

Al Service, Clarence E. Crumrine, Mitchell Field, Second Lieutenant Harold F. Roush, Mitchell Field, and William B. ...

Army Orders

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau

Following to Camp Benning: CAPTAINS—Bennet, J. B.; Bond, T. G.; Barrett, R. H.; Becker, J. J.; ...

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NEW YORK TRIBUNE, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 1920

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